GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:597
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the object of the National Development Council and the time interval for holding its meetings;

(b) whether some States Governments have requested the Union Government for changingthe criteria for allotment of funds assistance; (

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government have discussed with the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY O PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTEI OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE(SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a): The National Development Council was constituted by a Resolution of the Cabinet Secretariat dated 6th August 1952 to perform the following functions:

(i) to review the working of the National Plan from time to time;

(ii) to consider important questions of social and economic policy affecting national development; and

(iii) to recommend measures for the achievement of the aims and targets set out in the National Plan, including measures to secure the active participation and co-operation of the people, improve the efficiency of the administrative services, ensure the fullest development of the less advanced regions and sections of the community and, through sacrifice borne equally by all citizens, build up resources for national development.

The Council shall meet as often as may be necessary and in any case at least twice ineach year. Forty Nine meetings of the National Development Council have been held so far.

(b) to (e): Some State Governments have sought a revision of the Gadgil Formula forallocation of Normal Central Assistance to the States. In this regard, Planning Commissionhas sought the views and suggestions from various State Governments. There is wide divergence in the views amongst the States. In general, while the advanced States havesought higher weightage for performance, the less advance states have sought higher weightage for backwardness. Hence, the full Planning Commission in its meeting held on 27th and 29th June, 2001, discussed, inter-alia the issue of revision of Gadgil Formula and in viewof the divergence of the views amongst the State Governments and the sensitivity of thisissue, it was decided that it would be necessary to discuss this further and evolve a consensus before alternatives are considered by the NDC.